Television services on the transponders of INSAT-1D and INSAT-2A

*30. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have introduced television services by utilising spare time available on the transponders of INSAT-1D and INSAT-2A;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) if not, what are the reasons for the delay in introducing the programme; and

(d) by when these will be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. Only the programmes on the metro channel of Doordarshan between 8.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. are being uplinked using a transponder on INSAT-2A from 15th April, 1993. The output, using the spare time on other transponders, is proposed to be maximised in a phased manner to incorporate :

(i) an Entertainment Channel

(ii) a Sports Channel

(ii) a Business, News and Current Affairs Channel.

These channels are expected to be operationalised within the next few months.

Bringing UTI within the regulatory mechanism of SEBI

*31. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided that Unit Trust of India will be subjected to regulation and inspection by the Securities and Exchange Board of India;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether this will lead to re-organisation and spliting of UTI ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) The Government is currently examining a proposal to bring the mutual fund operations of Unit Trust of India under the regulatory framework of Securities and Exchange Board of India with a view to provide a level playing field to all mutual funds. In connection with this proposal, the Government is examining all aspects relating to Unit Trust of India.

Opening of Regional Offices of the Registrar of Newspapers in India

*32. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) what are the reasons for opening of Regional Office of Registrar of Newspapers in India and the criteria therefor;

(b) what are the places where the Regional Offices have so far been set up;

(c) what are the details of action taken to set up a Regional Office in Orissa; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b) Three Regional Offices in the three metropolitan cities of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras were opened during the VIIth Plan period with the purpose of aiding and advising the publishers in the matter of registration of newspapers, assessment of circulation claim, allocation of newsprint and procurement